

# Doubly Special Relativity with a minimum speed and the search for a quantum gravity at low energies

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This research aims to consider a new principle of symmetry in the space-time by means of the elimination of the classical idea of rest including a universal minimum limit of speed in the subatomic world. Such a limit, unattainable by the particles, represents a preferred inertial reference frame associated with a cosmological background field that breaks Lorentz symmetry. So there emerges a modified relativistic dynamics with a minimum speed related to the Planck length of the early universe, which leads us to search for a quantum gravity at low energies.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

In 1905, in the most meaningful article entitled “*On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies*”, Einstein solved the old incompatibility between classical mechanics and Maxwell theory, leading to a reformulation of our conception of space and time. In order to do that, he tried to preserve the symmetries of Maxwell equations by postulating the speed of light ( $c$ ) as invariant under any change of reference frame. At the end of his life, he continued searching in vain for the beauty of new symmetries in order to unify gravitation with electromagnetism, from where there would emerge a more fundamental explanation for the quantum phenomena by means of a theory of quantum gravity.

Still inspired by the seductive search for new fundamental symmetries in Nature[1], the present article attempts to implement a uniform background field into the flat space-time. Such a background field connected to a uniform vacuum energy density represents a preferred reference frame, which leads us to postulate a universal and invariant minimum limit of speed for particles with very large wavelengths (very low energies).

The idea that some symmetries of a fundamental theory of quantum gravity may have non trivial consequences for cosmology and particle physics at very low energies is interesting and indeed quite reasonable. So it seems that the idea of a universal minimum speed as one of the first attempts of Lorentz symmetry violation could have the origin from a fundamental theory of quantum gravity at very low energies (very large wavelengths).

Besides quantum gravity for the Planck minimum length  $l_P$  (very high energies), the new symmetry idea of a minimum speed  $V$  could appear due to the indispensable presence of gravity at quantum level for particles with very large wavelengths (very low energies). So we expect that such a universal minimum speed  $V$  also depends on fundamental constants as for instance

$G$  (gravitation) and  $\hbar$  (quantum mechanics)[2]. In this sense, there could be a relation between  $V$  and  $l_P$  since  $l_P \propto (G\hbar)^{1/2}$ . The origin of  $V$  and a possible connection between  $V$  and  $l_P$  shall be deeply investigated in a further work[2].

The hypothesis of the lowest non-null limit of speed for low energies ( $v \ll c$ ) in the space-time results in the following physical reasoning:

- In non-relativistic quantum mechanics, the plane wave wave-function ( $Ae^{\pm ipx/\hbar}$ ) which represents a free particle is an idealisation that is impossible to conceive under physical reality. In the event of such an idealized plane wave, it would be possible to find with certainty the reference frame that cancels its momentum ( $p = 0$ ), so that the uncertainty on its position would be  $\Delta x = \infty$ . However, the presence of an unattainable minimum limit of speed emerges in order to prevent the ideal case of a plane wave wave-function ( $p = \text{constant}$  or  $\Delta p = 0$ ). This means that there is no perfect inertial motion ( $v = \text{constant}$ ) such as a plane wave, except the privileged reference frame of a universal background field connected to an unattainable minimum limit of speed  $V$ , where  $p$  would vanish. However, since such a minimum speed  $V$  (universal background frame) is unattainable for the particles with low energies (large length scales), their momentum can actually never vanish when one tries to be closer to such a preferred frame ( $V$ ). On the other hand, according to Special Relativity (SR), the momentum cannot be infinite since the maximum speed  $c$  is also unattainable for a massive particle, except the photon ( $v = c$ ) as it is a massless particle.

This reasoning allows us to think that the photon ( $v = c$ ) as well as the massive particles ( $v < c$ ) are in equal-footing in the sense that it is not possible to find a reference frame at rest ( $v_{\text{relative}} = 0$ ) for any speed transformation in a space-time with both maximum and minimum speed limits. Therefore, such a deformed special relativity was termed as Symmetrical Special Relativity (SSR)[3].

The dynamics of particles in the presence of a universal background reference frame connected to  $V$  is within a context of the ideas of Sciama[4], Schrödinger[5] and Mach[6], where there should be an “absolute” inertial

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reference frame in relation to which we have the inertia of all moving bodies. However, we must emphasize that the concept used here is not classical as machian ideas, since the lowest (unattainable) limit of speed  $V$  plays the role of a privileged (inertial) reference frame of a universal background field instead of the “inertial” frame of fixed stars.

It is interesting to notice that the idea of universal background field was sought in vain by Einstein[7], motivated firstly by Lorentz[8]. It was Einstein who coined the term *ultra-referential* as the fundamental aspect of Reality to represent a universal background field[9][10][11][12][13]. Based on such a concept, let us call *ultra-referential*  $S_V$  to be the universal background field of a fundamental inertial reference frame connected to  $V$  (see reference[3]).

The present theory (SSR) is a kind of deformed special relativity (DSR) with two invariant scales, namely the speed of light  $c$  and a minimum speed  $V$ . DSR was first proposed by Camelia[14][15][16][17]. It contains two invariant scales: speed of light  $c$  and a minimum length scale (Planck length  $l_P$  of quantum gravity). An alternate approach to DSR theory, inspired by that of Camelia, was proposed later by Smolin and Magueijo[18][19][20].

Another extension of Special Relativity (SR) is known as triply special relativity, which is characterized by three invariant scales, namely the speed of light  $c$ , a mass  $k$  and a length  $R$ [21]. Still another generalization of SR is the quantizing of speeds[22], where Barrett-Crane spin foam model for quantum gravity with positive cosmological constant was considered, encouraging the authors to look for a discrete spectrum of velocities and the physical implications of this effect, namely an effective deformed Poincaré symmetry.

In a more recent paper[3], it was shown that the existence of a minimum (non-zero) speed  $V$  connected to a background field with minimum energy leads to a tiny positive cosmological constant, being in agreement with observations ( $\Lambda \sim 10^{-35} s^{-2}$ ). In fact, such an original physical result[3] also encourage us to search for a deformed Poincaré symmetry with the presence of an invariant minimum speed  $V$ .

## II. TRANSFORMATIONS OF SPACE-TIME COORDINATES IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ULTRA-REFERENTIAL $S_V$

The classical notion we have about the inertial (galilean) reference frames, where the system at rest exists, is eliminated in SSR where  $v > V$  (see Fig.1). However, if we consider classical systems composed of macroscopic bodies, the minimum speed  $V$  is neglected ( $V = 0$ ) and so we can reach a vanishing velocity ( $v = 0$ ), i.e., in the classical approximation ( $V \rightarrow 0$ ), the ultra-referential  $S_V$  is eliminated and simply replaced by the galilean reference frame  $S$  connected to a system at rest.

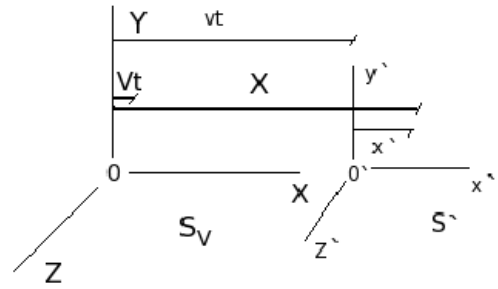


FIG. 1:  $S'$  moves with a velocity  $v$  with respect to the background field of the covariant ultra-referential  $S_V$ . If  $V \rightarrow 0$ ,  $S_V$  is eliminated and thus the galilean frame  $S$  takes place, recovering Lorentz transformations.

Symmetrical Special Relativity (SSR) should contain three postulates, namely:

- 1) the constancy of the speed of light  $c$ .
- 2) the non-equivalence (asymmetry) of the reference frames, i.e., we cannot exchange the speed  $v$  (of  $S'$ ) for  $-v$  (of  $S_V$ ) by the inverse transformations, since we cannot find the rest for  $S'$  (see Fig.1). Such an asymmetry was explored by means of speed transformations of SSR in a previous paper[3].
- 3) the covariance of the ultra-referential  $S_V$  (background frame) connected to an unattainable minimum limit of speed  $V$  (Fig.1).

### A. $(1+1)D$ space-time in SSR

Let us assume the reference frame  $S'$  with a speed  $v$  in relation to the ultra-referential  $S_V$  according to Fig. 1.

Hence, to simplify, consider the motion at only one spatial dimension, namely  $(1+1)D$  space-time with background field  $S_V$ . So we write the following transformations:

$$x' = \Psi(X - \beta_* ct) = \Psi(X - vt + Vt), \quad (1)$$

where  $\beta_* = \beta\epsilon = \beta(1 - \alpha)$ , being  $\beta = v/c$  and  $\alpha = V/v$ , so that  $\beta_* \rightarrow 0$  for  $v \rightarrow V$  or  $\alpha \rightarrow 1$ .

$$t' = \Psi\left(t - \frac{\beta_* X}{c}\right) = \Psi\left(t - \frac{vX}{c^2} + \frac{VX}{c^2}\right), \quad (2)$$

being  $\vec{v} = v_x \mathbf{x}$ ,  $|\vec{v}| = v_x = v$  and  $v_* = \beta_* c = v - V$ .  $|\vec{V}| = V$ , where  $\vec{V}$  is a vector given in the direction of  $x$ . In Fig.1, we consider, for instance, the motion to right in the direction of  $x$  ( $(1+1)D$  space). The  $(3+1)D$  case will be explored in the next subsection.

At first sight,  $v_*$  can be negative, however as it will be shown in section 4, the limit  $V$  forms an inferior energy barrier according to a new dynamical viewpoint of SSR, and so  $v_*$  must be positive in physical reality.

We have  $\Psi = \frac{\sqrt{1-\alpha^2}}{\sqrt{1-\beta^2}}$  to be justified later. If  $v < V$  ( $v_* < 0$  or  $\alpha > 1$ ),  $\Psi$  would be imaginary, that is to say it is a non-physical factor. So we must have  $v_* > 0$  to be justified in section 4.

If we make  $V \rightarrow 0$  ( $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  or  $v_* = v$ ), we recover Lorentz transformations, where the ultra-referential  $S_V$  is eliminated and simply replaced by the galilean frame  $S$  at rest for the classical observer.

In order to get the transformations (1) and (2) above, let us consider the following more general transformations:  $x' = \theta\gamma(X - \epsilon_1 vt)$  and  $t' = \theta\gamma(t - \frac{\epsilon_2 v X}{c^2})$ , where  $\theta$ ,  $\epsilon_1$  and  $\epsilon_2$  are factors (functions) to be determined. We hope all these factors depend on  $\alpha$ , such that, for  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  ( $V \rightarrow 0$ ), we recover Lorentz transformations as a particular case ( $\theta = 1$ ,  $\epsilon_1 = 1$  and  $\epsilon_2 = 1$ ). By using those transformations to perform  $[c^2 t'^2 - x'^2]$ , we find the identity:  $[c^2 t'^2 - x'^2] = \theta^2 \gamma^2 [c^2 t^2 - 2\epsilon_1 vtX + 2\epsilon_2 vtX - \epsilon_1^2 v^2 t^2 + \frac{\epsilon_2^2 v^2 X^2}{c^2} - X^2]$ . Since the metric tensor is diagonal, the crossed terms must vanish and so we assure that  $\epsilon_1 = \epsilon_2 = \epsilon$ . Due to this fact, the crossed terms ( $2\epsilon vtX$ ) are cancelled between themselves and finally we obtain  $[c^2 t'^2 - x'^2] = \theta^2 \gamma^2 (1 - \frac{\epsilon^2 v^2}{c^2}) [c^2 t^2 - X^2]$ . For  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  ( $\epsilon = 1$  and  $\theta = 1$ ), we reinstate  $[c^2 t'^2 - x'^2] = [c^2 t^2 - x^2]$  of SR. Now we write the following transformations:  $x' = \theta\gamma(X - \epsilon vt) \equiv \theta\gamma(X - vt + \delta)$  and  $t' = \theta\gamma(t - \frac{\epsilon v X}{c^2}) \equiv \theta\gamma(t - \frac{v X}{c^2} + \Delta)$ , where we assume  $\delta = \delta(V)$  and  $\Delta = \Delta(V)$ , so that  $\delta = \Delta = 0$  for  $V \rightarrow 0$ , which implies  $\epsilon = 1$ . So from such transformations we extract:  $-vt + \delta(V) \equiv -\epsilon vt$  and  $-\frac{vX}{c^2} + \Delta(V) \equiv -\frac{\epsilon v X}{c^2}$ , from where we obtain  $\epsilon = (1 - \frac{\delta(V)}{vt}) = (1 - \frac{c^2 \Delta(V)}{vX})$ . As  $\epsilon$  is a dimensionless factor, we immediately conclude that  $\delta(V) = Vt$  and  $\Delta(V) = \frac{VX}{c^2}$ , so that we find  $\epsilon = (1 - \frac{V}{v}) = (1 - \alpha)$ . On the other hand, we can determine  $\theta$  as follows:  $\theta$  is a function of  $\alpha$  ( $\theta(\alpha)$ ), such that  $\theta = 1$  for  $\alpha = 0$ , which also leads to  $\epsilon = 1$  in order to recover Lorentz transformations. So, as  $\epsilon$  depends on  $\alpha$ , we conclude that  $\theta$  can also be expressed in terms of  $\epsilon$ , namely  $\theta = \theta(\epsilon) = \theta[(1 - \alpha)]$ , where  $\epsilon = (1 - \alpha)$ . Therefore we can write  $\theta = \theta[(1 - \alpha)] = [f(\alpha)(1 - \alpha)]^k$ , where the exponent  $k > 0$ . Such a positive value must be justified later within a dynamical context (section 4).

The function  $f(\alpha)$  and  $k$  will be estimated by satisfying the following conditions:

i) as  $\theta = 1$  for  $\alpha = 0$  ( $V = 0$ ), this implies  $f(0) = 1$ .

ii) the function  $\theta\gamma = \frac{[f(\alpha)(1-\alpha)]^k}{(1-\beta^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{[f(\alpha)(1-\alpha)]^k}{[(1+\beta)(1-\beta)]^{\frac{1}{2}}}$  should have a symmetrical behavior, that is to say it approaches to zero when closer to  $V$  ( $\alpha \rightarrow 1$ ), and in the same way to the infinite when closer to  $c$  ( $\beta \rightarrow 1$ ). In other words, this means that the numerator of the function  $\theta\gamma$ , which depends on  $\alpha$  should have the same shape of its denominator, which depends on  $\beta$ . Due to such conditions, we naturally conclude that  $k = 1/2$  and  $f(\alpha) = (1 + \alpha)$ , so that  $\theta\gamma = \frac{[(1+\alpha)(1-\alpha)]^{\frac{1}{2}}}{[(1+\beta)(1-\beta)]^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{(1-\alpha^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(1-\beta^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} = \frac{\sqrt{1-V^2/v^2}}{\sqrt{1-v^2/c^2}} = \Psi$ , where  $\theta = (1 - \alpha^2)^{1/2} = (1 - V^2/v^2)^{1/2}$ .

In order justify the positive value of  $k$  ( $= 1/2$ ), first of all we will study the dynamics of a particle submitted to a force in the same direction of its motion, so that the new relativistic power in SSR ( $P_{ow}$ ) should be computed to show us that the minimum limit of speed  $V$  works like an inferior energy barrier, namely  $P_{ow} = vdp/dt$ . So when we make such a derivative ( $dp/dt$ ) of the new momentum  $p = \Psi m_0 v = \theta\gamma m_0 v$  (eq.34), we are able to see an effective energy barrier of  $V$ , where a vacuum energy of the ultra-referential  $S_V$  takes place, governing the dynamics of the massive particles (section 4).

The transformations shown in (1) and (2) are the direct transformations from  $S_V$  [ $X^\mu = (X, ict)$ ] to  $S'$  [ $x'^\mu = (x', ict')$ ], where we have  $x'^\mu = \Omega^\mu_\nu X^\nu$  ( $x' = \Omega X$ ), so that we obtain the following matrix of transformation:

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} \Psi & i\beta(1-\alpha)\Psi \\ -i\beta(1-\alpha)\Psi & \Psi \end{pmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

such that  $\Omega \rightarrow L$  (Lorentz matrix of rotation) for  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  ( $\Psi \rightarrow \gamma$ ). We should investigate whether the transformations (3) form a group. However, such an investigation can form the basis of a further work.

We obtain  $\det\Omega = \frac{(1-\alpha^2)}{(1-\beta^2)}[1 - \beta^2(1-\alpha)^2]$ , where  $0 < \det\Omega < 1$ . Since  $V$  ( $S_V$ ) is unattainable ( $v > V$ ), this assures that  $\alpha = V/v < 1$  and therefore the matrix  $\Omega$  admits inverse ( $\det\Omega \neq 0$  ( $> 0$ )). However  $\Omega$  is a non-orthogonal matrix ( $\det\Omega \neq \pm 1$ ) and so it does not represent a rotation matrix ( $\det\Omega \neq 1$ ) in such a space-time due to the presence of the privileged frame of background field  $S_V$  that breaks strongly the invariance of the norm of the 4-vector of SR (section 3). Actually such an effect ( $\det\Omega \approx 0$  for  $\alpha \approx 1$ ) emerges from a new relativistic physics of SSR for treating much lower energies at ultra-infrared regime closer to  $S_V$  (very large wavelengths).

We notice that  $\det\Omega$  is a function of the speed  $v$  with respect to  $S_V$ . In the approximation for  $v \gg V$  ( $\alpha \approx 0$ ), we obtain  $\det\Omega \approx 1$  and so we practically reinstate the rotational behavior of Lorentz matrix as a particular regime for higher energies. If we make  $V \rightarrow 0$  ( $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ ), we exactly recover  $\det\Omega = 1$ .

The inverse transformations (from  $S'$  to  $S_V$ ) are

$$X = \Psi'(x' + \beta_* ct') = \Psi'(x' + vt' - Vt'), \quad (4)$$

$$t = \Psi' \left( t' + \frac{\beta_* x'}{c} \right) = \Psi' \left( t' + \frac{vx'}{c^2} - \frac{Vx'}{c^2} \right). \quad (5)$$

In matrix form, we have the inverse transformation  $X^\mu = \Omega^\mu_\nu x'^\nu$  ( $X = \Omega^{-1} x'$ ), so that the inverse matrix is

$$\Omega^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \Psi' & -i\beta(1-\alpha)\Psi' \\ i\beta(1-\alpha)\Psi' & \Psi' \end{pmatrix}, \quad (6)$$

where we can show that  $\Psi' = \Psi^{-1}/[1 - \beta^2(1 - \alpha)^2]$ , so that we must satisfy  $\Omega^{-1}\Omega = I$ .

Indeed we have  $\Psi' \neq \Psi$  and therefore  $\Omega^{-1} \neq \Omega^T$ . This non-orthogonal aspect of  $\Omega$  has an important physical implication. In order to understand such an implication, let us first consider the orthogonal (e.g.: rotation) aspect of Lorentz matrix in SR. Under SR, we have  $\alpha = 0$ , so that  $\Psi' \rightarrow \gamma' = \gamma = (1 - \beta^2)^{-1/2}$ . This symmetry ( $\gamma' = \gamma$ ,  $L^{-1} = L^T$ ) happens because the galilean reference frames allow us to exchange the speed  $v$  (of  $S'$ ) for  $-v$  (of  $S$ ) when we are at rest at  $S'$ . However, under SSR, since there is no rest at  $S'$ , we cannot exchange  $v$  (of  $S'$ ) for  $-v$  (of  $S_V$ ) due to that asymmetry ( $\Psi' \neq \Psi$ ,  $\Omega^{-1} \neq \Omega^T$ ). Due to this fact,  $S_V$  must be covariant, namely  $V$  remains invariant for any change of reference frame in such a space-time. Thus we can notice that the paradox of twins, which appears due to the symmetry by exchange of  $v$  for  $-v$  in SR should be naturally eliminated in SSR, where only the reference frame  $S'$  can move with respect to  $S_V$ . So  $S_V$  remains covariant (invariant for any change of reference frame). We have  $\det\Omega = \Psi^2[1 - \beta^2(1 - \alpha)^2] \Rightarrow [(\det\Omega)\Psi^{-2}] = [1 - \beta^2(1 - \alpha)^2]$ . So we can alternatively write  $\Psi' = \Psi^{-1}/[1 - \beta^2(1 - \alpha)^2] = \Psi^{-1}/[(\det\Omega)\Psi^{-2}] = \Psi/\det\Omega$ . By inserting this result in (6) to replace  $\Psi'$ , we obtain the relationship between the inverse matrix and the transposed matrix of  $\Omega$ , namely  $\Omega^{-1} = \Omega^T/\det\Omega$ . Indeed  $\Omega$  is a non-orthogonal matrix, since we have  $\det\Omega \neq \pm 1$ .

According to Fig.1, it is important to notice that a particle moving in one spatial dimension ( $x$ ) goes only to right or to left, since the unattainable minimum limit of speed  $V$ , which represents the spatial aspect of the space-time in SSR, prevents it to stop ( $v = 0$ ) in the space. So it cannot return in the same spatial dimension  $x$ . On the other hand, in a complementary and symmetric way to  $V$ , the limit  $c$ , which represents the temporal aspect of the space-time, prevents to stop the marching of the time ( $v_t = 0$ ), and so avoiding to come back to the past (see eq.29). In short, we perceive that the basic ingredient of the space-time structure in SSR, namely the  $(1+1)D$  space-time presents  $x$  and  $t$  in equal-footing in the sense that both of them are irreversible once the particle is moving to right or to left. Such an equal-footing “ $xt$ ” in SSR does not occurs in SR since we can stop the spatial motion in SR ( $v_x = 0$ ) and so come back in  $x$ , but not in  $t$ . However, if we take into account more than one spatial dimension in SSR, at least two spatial dimensions ( $xy$ ), thus the particle could return by moving in the additional (extra) dimension(s)  $y$  ( $z$ ). So SSR is able to provide the reason why we must have more than one (1) spatial dimension for representing movement in reality  $(3+1)D$ , although we could have one (1) spatial dimension just as a good practical approximation for some cases of classical space-time as in SR (e.g.: a ball moving in a rectilinear path).

The reasoning above leads us to conclude that the minimum limit  $V$  has deep implications for understanding the irreversible aspect of the time connected to the spa-

tial motion in  $1D$ . Such an irreversibility generated by SSR just for  $(1+1)D$  ( $xt$ ) space-time really deserves a deeper treatment in a future research.

## B. $(3+1)D$ space-time in SSR

In order to obtain general transformations for the case of  $(3+1)D$  space-time, we should replace the one dimensional coordinates  $X$  and  $x'$  by the 3-vectors  $\vec{r}$  and  $\vec{r}'$  so that we write:  $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_{||} + \vec{r}_T$ , being  $\vec{r}_{||}$  given in the direction of the motion and  $\vec{r}_T$  is given in the transversal direction of the motion  $\vec{v}$ .

At the frame  $S'$  with velocity  $\vec{v}$ , we have the vector  $\vec{r}'$ , where we generally write:  $\vec{r}' = \vec{r}'_{||} + \vec{r}'_T$ .

In the classical  $(3+1)D$  space-time of SR, of course we should have  $\vec{r}'_T = \vec{r}_T$  since there is no boost for the transversal direction, so that the modulus of  $\vec{r}_T$  is always preserved for any reference frame. However, for  $(3+1)D$  space-time of SSR, there should be a transformation of the transversal vector such that  $\vec{r}'_T \neq \vec{r}_T$ . So let us admit the following transformation:  $\vec{r}'_T = \theta \vec{r}_T = \sqrt{1 - \alpha^2} \vec{r}_T$ , where  $\alpha = V/v$ . Such a non-classical effect occurs only due to the existence of a minimum speed  $V$  given for any direction in the space, so that even the transversal direction could not be neglected, i.e., in SSR there should be a transformation for the vector at the transversal direction of the motion. Therefore, only if the speed  $v$  is closer to  $V$ , a drastic dilation of  $r_T$  occurs, that is to say  $r_T \rightarrow \infty$  when  $v \rightarrow V$ . Such a transversal dilation that occurs only close to the ultra-referential  $S_V$  shows us the 3-dimensional aspect of the background frame connected to  $S_V$ , which could not be simply reduced to 1-dimensional space since  $V$  should remain invariant for any direction in the space.

So, at the frame  $S'$ , we have

$$\vec{r}' = \vec{r}'_{||} + \theta \vec{r}_T, \quad (7)$$

where  $\vec{r}'_T = \theta \vec{r}_T$ .

As the direction of motion ( $\vec{r}_{||}$ ) transforms in a similar way to the equation (1) for 1-dimensional case, we simply write (7), as follows:

$$\vec{r}' = \theta[\vec{r}_T + \gamma(\vec{r}_{||} - \vec{v}(1 - \alpha)t)], \quad (8)$$

where we simply have  $\vec{r}'_{||} = \theta\gamma(\vec{r}_{||} - \vec{v}(1 - \alpha)t)$ , being  $\vec{r}_{||}$  parallel to  $\vec{v}$ . We have  $\Psi = \theta\gamma$  and  $\alpha = V/v$ .

From (8), we can see that  $\theta$  appears as a multiplicative factor. Of course, if we make  $\alpha = 0$  ( $V = 0$ ) in (8), this implies  $\theta = 1$  and so we recover the well-known Lorentz transformation of the 3-vector.

We write  $\vec{r}_T = \vec{r} - \vec{r}_{||}$ . So by introducing this information into (8) and performing the calculations, we find:

$$\vec{r}' = \theta[\vec{r} + (\gamma - 1)\vec{r}_{||} - \gamma\vec{v}(1 - \alpha)t] \quad (9)$$

We have  $\vec{r}_{||} = r \cos \phi \vec{e}_{||}$ , where  $\vec{e}_{||}$  is the unitary vector in the direction of motion, i.e.,  $\vec{e}_{||} = \frac{\vec{v}}{v}$ . Angle  $\phi$  is formed between the direction of  $\vec{r}$  and  $\vec{e}_{||}$ . On the other hand, we can write:  $r \cos \phi = (\vec{r} \cdot \vec{v})/v$ . Finally we get  $\vec{r}_{||} = \frac{(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{v})}{v^2} \vec{v}$ . So we write (9) in the following way:

$$\vec{r}' = \theta[\vec{r} + (\gamma - 1)\frac{(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{v})}{v^2} \vec{v} - \gamma \vec{v}(1 - \alpha)t] \quad (10)$$

Transformation (10) above represents the 3-vector transformation in  $(3+1)D$  space-time.

From (10), we can verify that, if we consider  $\vec{v}$  to be in the same direction of  $\vec{r}$ , being  $r \equiv X$ , we obtain  $\frac{(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{v})}{v^2} \vec{v} = X \frac{\vec{v}}{v} = X \vec{e}_x$ . So the transformation (10) is reduced to  $x' = \theta[X + (\gamma - 1)X - \gamma v(1 - \alpha)t] = \theta\gamma(X - v(1 - \alpha)t)$ , where  $\Psi = \theta\gamma$ . Such a transformation is exactly the transformation (1) for the case of  $(1+1)D$  space-time.

Now we can realize that the generalization of the transformation (2) for the case of  $(3+1)D$  space-time leads us to write:

$$t' = \theta\gamma[t - \frac{(\vec{r} \cdot \vec{v})}{c^2}(1 - \alpha)], \quad (11)$$

where  $\theta\gamma = \Psi$ . It is easy to verify that, if we have  $\vec{v}_{||} \equiv X \vec{e}_x$ , we recover the time transformation (2) for  $(1+1)D$  space-time.

Finally, by putting (11) and (10) in a matricial compact form, we find the following compact matrix:

$$\Omega_{4 \times 4} = \begin{pmatrix} \theta\gamma & -\frac{\theta\gamma \mathbf{v}^T(1-\alpha)}{c} \\ -\frac{\theta\gamma \mathbf{v}(1-\alpha)}{c} & \left[ \theta I + \theta(\gamma - 1)\frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}{v^2} \right] \end{pmatrix}, \quad (12)$$

where  $I = I_{3 \times 3}$  is the identity matrix ( $3 \times 3$ ) and  $\mathbf{v}^T = (v_x, v_y, v_z)$  is the transpose of  $\mathbf{v}$ .

Now, in order to obtain the general inverse transformations, we should generalize the inverse transformations (4) and (5) for the case of  $(3+1)D$  space-time. To do that, we firstly consider the following known relations:  $\vec{r} = \vec{r}_{||} + \vec{r}_T$  (12.a) and  $\vec{r}' = \vec{r}_{||}' + \theta \vec{r}_T$  (12.b), being  $\theta \vec{r}_T = \vec{r}_T'$  or  $\vec{r}_T = \theta^{-1} \vec{r}_T'$  (12.c).

In the direction of motion, the inverse transformation has the same form of (4), where we simply replace  $X$  by  $\vec{r}_{||}$  and  $x'$  by  $\vec{r}_{||}'$ . So we write:

$$\vec{r}_{||} = \Psi'[\vec{r}_{||}' + \vec{v}(1 - \alpha)t'], \quad (13)$$

where we have shown  $\Psi' = \Psi^{-1}/[1 - \beta^2(1 - \alpha)^2] \neq \Psi$ .

Introducing (13) and (12.c) into (12.a), we find

$$\vec{r} = \theta^{-1} \vec{r}_T' + \Psi'[\vec{r}_{||}' + \vec{v}(1 - \alpha)t'] \quad (14)$$

As we have  $\vec{r}_T' = \vec{r} - \vec{r}_{||}$  (at the frame  $S'$ ), so introducing this relation into (14) and performing the calculations, we get

$$\vec{r} = \theta^{-1} \vec{r}' + (\Psi' - \theta^{-1}) \vec{r}_{||}' + \Psi' \vec{v}(1 - \alpha)t', \quad (15)$$

where we have  $\vec{r}_{||}' = (\frac{\vec{r}' \cdot \vec{v}}{v^2}) \vec{v}$ , and so we write

$$\vec{r} = \theta^{-1} \vec{r}' + (\Psi' - \theta^{-1}) \left( \frac{\vec{r}' \cdot \vec{v}}{v^2} \right) \vec{v} + \Psi' \vec{v}(1 - \alpha)t', \quad (16)$$

As we already know  $\Psi' = \Psi^{-1}/[1 - \beta^2(1 - \alpha)^2] = \theta^{-1} \gamma^{-1}/[1 - \beta^2(1 - \alpha)^2]$ , we can also write (16) in the following way:

$$\vec{r} = \theta^{-1} \vec{r}' + \theta^{-1} \left[ \left( \frac{\gamma^{-1}}{1 - \beta_*^2} - 1 \right) \left( \frac{\vec{r}' \cdot \vec{v}}{v^2} \right) + \frac{(\gamma^{-1})_*}{1 - \beta_*^2} t' \right] \vec{v}, \quad (17)$$

where we have used the simplified notation  $\beta_* = \beta(1 - \alpha)$ . We also have  $(\gamma^{-1})_* = \gamma^{-1}(1 - \alpha)$ .

Now it is natural to conclude that the time inverse transformation is given as follows:

$$t = \frac{\theta^{-1} \gamma^{-1}}{1 - \beta^2(1 - \alpha)^2} \left[ t' + \frac{\vec{r}' \cdot \vec{v}}{c^2}(1 - \alpha) \right] \quad (18)$$

In (17) and (18), if we make  $\alpha = 0$  (or  $V = 0$ ), we recover the  $(3+1)D$  Lorentz inverse transformations.

From (18) and (17) we get the following compact inverse matrix of transformation:

$$\Omega_{4 \times 4}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\theta^{-1} \gamma^{-1}}{1 - \beta_*^2} & \frac{\theta^{-1} \gamma^{-1} \mathbf{v}_*^T}{c(1 - \beta_*^2)} \\ \frac{\theta^{-1} \gamma^{-1} \mathbf{v}_*}{c(1 - \beta_*^2)} & \left[ \theta^{-1} I + \theta \left( \frac{\gamma^{-1}}{1 - \beta_*^2} - 1 \right) \frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^T}{v^2} \right] \end{pmatrix}, \quad (19)$$

where  $\mathbf{v}_*^T = \mathbf{v}^T(1 - \alpha)$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_* = \mathbf{v}(1 - \alpha)$  and  $\beta_* = \beta(1 - \alpha)$ .

Now we can compare the inverse matrix (19) with (12) and also verify that  $\Omega_{4 \times 4}^{-1} \neq \Omega_{4 \times 4}^T$ , in a similar way as made before for the case  $(1+1)D$ .

### III. FLAT SPACE-TIME WITH THE ULTRA-REFERENTIAL $S_V$

#### A. Flat space-time in SR

First of all, as it is well-known, according to SR, the space-time interval is

$$ds^2 = g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu = c^2 dt^2 - dx^2 - dy^2 - dz^2, \quad (20)$$

where  $g_{\mu\nu}$  is the Minkowski metric of the flat space-time.

Due to the invariance of the norm of the 4-vector, we have  $ds^2$  (frame  $S$ ) =  $ds'^2$  (frame  $S'$ ). By considering a moving particle with a speed  $v$ , being on the origin of  $S'$ , we write

$$ds^2 = c^2 dt^2 - dx^2 - dy^2 - dz^2 \equiv ds'^2 = c^2 d\tau^2, \quad (21)$$

from where we extract the following relation between time intervals:

$$\Delta\tau = \Delta t \left[ 1 - \frac{(dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2)}{c^2 dt^2} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \Delta t \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}} \quad (22)$$

Fixing the proper time interval  $\Delta\tau$ , thus for  $v \rightarrow c$ , this leads to the drastic increasing of the improper time interval ( $\Delta t \rightarrow \infty$ ). This is the well-known *time dilatation*.

### B. Flat space-time in SSR related to the cosmological vacuum[3]

Due to the non-locality of the ultra-referential  $S_V$  connected to a background field that fills uniformly the whole flat space-time, when the speed  $v$  ( $S'$ ) of a particle is much closer to  $V$  ( $S_V$ ), a very drastic dilatation of the proper space-time interval  $dS'$  occurs. In order to describe such an effect in terms of metric, let us write:

$$dS_v'^2 = dS_v^2 = \Theta_v ds^2 = \Theta_v g_{\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu, \quad (23)$$

where  $dS_v'$  ( $= dS'$ ) is the dilated proper space-time interval (in  $S'$ ) due to the dilatation factor (function)  $\Theta_v$ , which depends on the speed  $v$ , so that  $\Theta_v$  diverges ( $\rightarrow \infty$ ) when  $v \rightarrow V$ , and thus  $\Delta S_v' = \Delta S_v \gg \Delta s$  ( $\Delta S_v \rightarrow \infty$ ), breaking strongly the invariance of  $\Delta s$ . On the other hand, when  $v \gg V$  we recover  $\Delta s$ , i.e.,  $\Delta S_v' = \Delta S_v \approx \Delta s$ , which does not depend on  $v$  since  $\Theta_v \approx 1$  (approximation for SR theory). So considering such conditions, let us write

$$\Theta_v = \Theta(v) = \frac{1}{(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2})}, \quad [3] \quad (24)$$

which leads to an effective (deformed) metric  $G_{(v)\mu\nu} = \Theta(v)g_{\mu\nu}$  due to the dilatation factor  $\Theta_v$ . So we have  $dS_v'^2 = G_{(v)\mu\nu} dx^\mu dx^\nu$ . We observe that  $\Theta(v) = \theta(v)^{-2}$ , where we have shown that  $\theta(v) = \sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}$  (section 2). Actually the dilatation factor  $\Theta_v$  appears due to the presence of the privileged frame  $S_V$  as a background field being inherent to the deformed metric  $G_{(v)\mu\nu}$ . Thus the transformations in such a space-time of SSR do not necessarily form a group. This subject will be treated in a further work.

The presence of the dilatation factor  $\Theta_v$  affects directly the proper time of the moving particle at  $S'$ , which becomes a variable parameter in SSR, in the sense that, just close to  $V$ , there emerges a dilatation of the proper time interval  $\Delta\tau$  in relation to the improper one  $\Delta t$ , namely

$\Delta\tau > \Delta t$ . In short, such a new relativistic effect in SSR shows us that the proper time interval becomes a variable and deformable parameter connected to the motion  $v$ , as well as the improper time interval is deformable, namely the so-called *time dilatation*.

In SSR, due to the connection between the proper time interval and the motion, let us call  $\Delta\tau_v$  (at  $S'$ ) to represent an intrinsic variable of proper time interval depending on the motion  $v$ . Of course for  $v \gg V$ , we expect that such a dependence can be neglected, recovering the proper time of SR. But, close to  $V$ , the new effect of the dilatation of  $\Delta\tau_v$  in relation to  $\Delta t$  ( $\Delta\tau_v > \Delta t$ ) emerges, and it is due to the dilatation factor  $\Theta(v)$ . So according to (23) we find the following equivalence of dilated space-time intervals:

$$dS_v^2 = \Theta_v [c^2 dt^2 - dx^2 - dy^2 - dz^2] \equiv dS_v'^2 = c^2 d\tau_v^2, \quad (25)$$

being  $\Theta_v = \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{-1}$ . Here we have made  $dx'^2 = dy'^2 = dz'^2 = 0$ . If we make  $V \rightarrow 0$  (no ultra-referential  $S_V$ ) or even  $v \gg V$  ( $\Theta_v \approx 1$ ), we recover the well-known equivalence (invariance) of intervals in SR (see (21)).

As the deformed metric  $G_{\mu\nu}(v)$  of SSR depends on velocity, it seems to be related to a kind of Finsler metric, namely a Finslerian (non-Riemannian) space with a metric depending on position and velocity, that is,  $g_{\mu\nu}(x, \dot{x})$  [23][24] [25][26][27]. Of course, if there is no dependence on velocity, the Finsler space turns out to be a Riemannian space. Such a possible connection between  $G_{\mu\nu}(v)$  and Finslerian geometry should be investigated.

From (25) we obtain

$$d\tau_v^2 \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right) = dt^2 \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right), \quad (26)$$

which finally leads to

$$\Delta\tau \sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}} = \Delta t \sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}} \quad (27)$$

Equation 27 reveals a perfect symmetry ( $V < v < c$ ) in the sense that both intervals of time  $\Delta t$  and  $\Delta\tau$  can dilate, namely  $\Delta t$  dilates for  $v \rightarrow c$  and, on the other hand,  $\Delta\tau$  dilates for  $v \rightarrow V$ . But, if  $V \rightarrow 0$ , we break such a symmetry of SSR and so we recover the well-known time equation (eq.22) of SR, where only  $\Delta t$  dilates.

For the sake of simplicity, we simply use the notation  $\Delta\tau$  ( $= \Delta\tau_v$ ) for representing the proper time interval in the time equation of SSR (eq.27).

From (27) we notice that, if we make  $v = v_0 = \sqrt{cV}$  (a geometric average between  $c$  and  $V$ ), we exactly find the equality  $\Delta\tau$  ( $S'$ )  $= \Delta t$  ( $S$ ), namely a newtonian result where the time intervals are the same. Thus we conclude that  $v_0$  represents a special intermediate speed in SSR ( $V \ll v_0 \ll c$ ) such that, if:

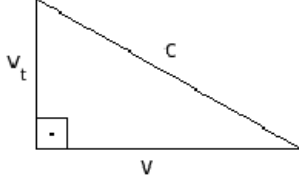


FIG. 2: We see that the horizontal leg represents the spatial-speed  $v$ , while the vertical leg represents the temporal-speed  $v_t$  (march of time), where  $v_t = \sqrt{c^2 - v^2} = c\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2} = c\sqrt{1 - V^2/v^2}d\tau/dt$  (see eq.27), so that we always have  $v^2 + v_t^2 = c^2$ . In SR, when  $v = 0$ , the horizontal leg vanishes (no spatial speed) and so the vertical leg becomes maximum ( $v_t = v_{tmax} = c$ ). However, according to SSR, due to the existence of a minimum limit of spatial speed ( $V$ ), we can never nullify the horizontal leg, so that the maximum temporal speed (maximum vertical leg) is  $v_{tmax} = \sqrt{c^2 - V^2} = c\sqrt{1 - V^2/c^2} < c$ . On the other hand  $v_t$  (the vertical leg) cannot be zero since  $v = c$  is forbidden for massive particles. So we conclude that a rectangular triangle is always preserved since both temporal and spatial speeds cannot vanish and so they always coexist, providing a strong symmetry of SSR.

a)  $v \gg v_0$  (or even  $v \rightarrow c$ ), we get  $\Delta\tau \ll \Delta t$ . This is the well-known *improper time dilatation*.

b)  $v \ll v_0$  (or even  $v \rightarrow V$ ), we get  $\Delta\tau \gg \Delta t$ . Let us call such a new effect as *improper time contraction or dilatation of the proper time interval  $\Delta\tau$  in relation to the improper time interval  $\Delta t$* . This effect is more evident only for  $v \rightarrow V$ , so that we have  $\Delta\tau \rightarrow \infty$  for  $\Delta t$  fixed (see eq.27). In other words this means that the proper time elapses faster than the improper one closer to  $V$ .

In SSR, it is interesting to notice that we restore the newtonian regime when  $V \ll v \ll c$ , which represents an intermediary regime of speeds so that we get the newtonian approximation from equation 27, i.e.,  $\Delta\tau \approx \Delta t$ .

Equation 27 can be written in the form

$$c^2\Delta\tau^2 = \frac{1}{(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2})}[c^2\Delta t^2 - v^2\Delta t^2] \quad (28)$$

By placing eq.28 in a differential form and manipulating it, we will obtain

$$c^2 \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right) \frac{d\tau^2}{dt^2} + v^2 = c^2 \quad (29)$$

Equation (29) shows us that both of the speeds related to the marching of time (“temporal-speed”  $v_t = c\sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}\frac{d\tau}{dt}$ ) and the spatial speed  $v$  form the vertical and horizontal legs of a rectangular triangle respectively (Fig.2). The hypotenuse of the triangle is  $c = (v_t^2 + v^2)^{1/2}$  representing the spatio-temporal speed of any particle.

Looking at Fig.2 we should consider three important cases, namely:

a) If  $v \approx c$ ,  $v_t \approx 0$  (the marching of the time is very slow), so that  $\Psi \gg 1$ , leading to  $\Delta t \gg \Delta\tau$  (*dilatation of the improper time*).

b) If  $v = v_0 = \sqrt{cV}$ ,  $v_t = \sqrt{c^2 - v_0^2}$  (the marching of the time is fast), so that  $\Psi = \Psi_0 = \Psi(v_0) = 1$ , leading to  $\Delta\tau = \Delta t$ .

c) If  $v \approx V (< v_0)$ ,  $v_t \approx \sqrt{c^2 - V^2} = c\sqrt{1 - V^2/c^2}$  (the marching of the time is even faster than that one at  $S$ ), so that  $\Psi \ll 1$ , leading to  $\Delta t \ll \Delta\tau$  (*contraction of the improper time or dilatation of the proper time with respect to the improper one*).

#### IV. RELATIVISTIC DYNAMICS IN SSR

##### A. Energy and momentum

Let us firstly define the 4-velocity in the presence of  $S_V$ , as follows:

$$U^\mu = \left[ \frac{\sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}, \frac{v_\alpha \sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}}{c\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} \right], \quad (30)$$

where  $\mu = 0, 1, 2, 3$  and  $\alpha = 1, 2, 3$ . If  $V \rightarrow 0$ , we recover the well-known 4-velocity of SR. From (30) it is interesting to observe that the 4-velocity of SSR vanishes in the limit of  $v \rightarrow V$  ( $S_V$ ), i.e.,  $U^\mu = (0, 0, 0, 0)$ , whereas in SR, for  $v = 0$  we find  $U^\mu = (1, 0, 0, 0)$ .

The 4-momentum is

$$p^\mu = m_0 c U^\mu, \quad (31)$$

being  $U^\mu$  given in (30). So we find

$$p^\mu = \left[ \frac{m_0 c \sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}, \frac{m_0 v_\alpha \sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}} \right], \quad (32)$$

where  $p^0 = E/c$ , such that

$$E = cp^0 = mc^2 = m_0 c^2 \frac{\sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}, \quad (33)$$

where  $E$  is the total energy of the particle with speed  $v$  in relation to the absolute inertial frame (ultra-referential  $S_V$ ). From (33), we observe that, if  $v \rightarrow c \Rightarrow E \rightarrow \infty$ . If  $v \rightarrow V \Rightarrow E \rightarrow 0$  and if  $v = v_0 = \sqrt{cV} \Rightarrow E = E_0 = m_0 c^2$  (proper energy in SSR). Figure 3 shows us the graph for the energy  $E$  in eq.33.

From (32) we also obtain the (spatial) momentum, namely:

$$\vec{p} = m_0 \vec{v} \frac{\sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}, \quad (34)$$

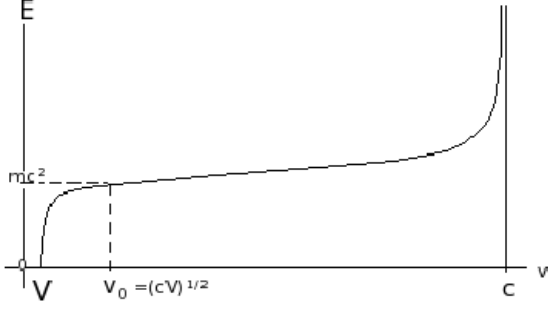


FIG. 3:  $v_0 = \sqrt{cV}$  is a speed such that we get the proper energy of the particle ( $E_0 = m_0 c^2$ ) in SSR, where  $\Psi_0 = \Psi(v_0) = 1$ . For  $v \ll v_0$  or closer to  $S_V$  ( $v \rightarrow V$ ), a new relativistic correction on energy arises, so that  $E \rightarrow 0$ . On the other hand, for  $v \gg v_0$ , being  $v \rightarrow c$ , so we find  $E \rightarrow \infty$ .

where  $\vec{v} = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$ .

From (32), performing the quantity  $p^\mu p_\mu$ , we obtain the energy-momentum relation of SSR, as follows:

$$p^\mu p_\mu = \frac{E^2}{c^2} - \vec{p}^2 = m_0^2 c^2 \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right), \quad (35)$$

where  $\vec{p}^2 = p_1^2 + p_2^2 + p_3^2$ .

From (35) we find

$$E^2 = c^2 p^2 + m_0^2 c^4 \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right) \quad (36)$$

In the present work, as we are focusing our attention on some dynamical implications of a minimum speed, let us leave a more detailed development of the physical consequences of SSR in terms of field-theory actions and gravitational extensions to be explored elsewhere.

### B. The energy barrier of the minimum speed $V$

Let us consider a force applied to a particle, in the same direction of its motion. More general cases where the force is not necessarily parallel to velocity will be treated elsewhere. In our specific case ( $\vec{F} \parallel \vec{v}$ ), the relativistic power  $P_{ow} (= v dp/dt)$  is given as follows:

$$P_{ow} = v \frac{d}{dt} \left[ m_0 v \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right], \quad (37)$$

where we have used the momentum  $p$  given in (34).

After performing the calculations in (37), we find

$$P_{ow} = \left[ \frac{\left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} + \frac{V^2}{v^2 \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] \frac{dE_k}{dt}, \quad (38)$$

where  $E_k = \frac{1}{2} m_0 v^2$ .

If we make  $V \rightarrow 0$  and  $c \rightarrow \infty$  in (38), we simply recover the power obtained in newtonian mechanics, namely  $P_{ow} = dE_k/dt$ . Now, if we just consider  $V \rightarrow 0$  in (38), we recover the well-known relativistic power (SR), namely  $P_{ow} = (1 - v^2/c^2)^{-3/2} dE_k/dt$ . We notice that such a relativistic power tends to infinite ( $P_{ow} \rightarrow \infty$ ) in the limit  $v \rightarrow c$ . We explain this result as an effect of the drastic increase of an effective inertial mass close to  $c$ , namely  $m_{eff} = m_0 (1 - v^2/c^2)^{k''}$ , where  $k'' = -3/2$ . We must stress that such an effective inertial mass is the response to an applied force parallel to the motion according to Newton second law, and it increases faster than the relativistic mass  $m = m_r = m_0 (1 - v^2/c^2)^{-1/2}$ .

The effective inertial mass  $m_{eff}$  we have obtained is a longitudinal mass  $m_L$ , i.e., it is a response to the force applied in the direction of motion. In SR, for the case where the force is perpendicular to velocity, we can show that the transversal mass increases like the relativistic mass, i.e.,  $m = m_T = m_0 (1 - v^2/c^2)^{-1/2}$ , which differs from the longitudinal mass  $m_L = m_0 (1 - v^2/c^2)^{-3/2}$ . So in this sense there is anisotropy of the effective inertial mass to be also investigated in more details by SSR in a further work.

The mysterious discrepancy between the relativistic mass  $m$  ( $m_r$ ) and the longitudinal inertial mass  $m_L$  from Newton second law (eq.38) is a controversial issue[28][29][30][31][32][33]. Actually the newtonian notion about inertia as the resistance to acceleration ( $m_L$ ) is not compatible with the relativistic dynamics ( $m_r$ ) in the sense that we generally cannot consider  $\vec{F} = m_r \vec{a}$ . The dynamics of SSR aims to give us a new interpretation for the inertia of the newtonian point of view in order to make it compatible with the relativistic mass. This compatibility will be possible just due to the influence of the background field that couples to the particle and “dresses” its relativistic mass in order to generate an effective (dressed) mass in accordance with the newtonian notion about inertia (from eqs.37 and 38). This issue will be clarified in this section.

From (38), it is important to observe that, when we are closer to  $V$ , there emerges a completely new result (correction) for power, namely:

$$P_{ow} \approx \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{2} m_0 v^2\right), \quad (39)$$

given in the approximation  $v \approx V$ . So we notice that  $P_{ow} \rightarrow \infty$  when  $v \approx V$ . We can also make the limit  $v \rightarrow V$  for the general case (eq.38) and so we obtain an infinite power ( $P_{ow} \rightarrow \infty$ ). Such a new relativistic effect deserves the following very important comment: Although we are in the limit of very low energies close to  $V$ , where the energy of the particle ( $mc^2$ ) tends to zero according to the approximation  $E = mc^2 \approx m_0 c^2 (1 - V^2/v^2)^k$  with  $k = 1/2$  (make the approximation  $v \approx V$  for eq.33), on the other hand the power given in (39) shows us that there is an effective inertial mass that increases to infinite



in the limit  $v \rightarrow V$ , that is to say, from (39) we get the effective mass  $m_{eff} \approx m_0(1 - V^2/v^2)^{k'}$ , where  $k' = -1/2$ . Therefore, from a dynamical point of view, the negative exponent  $k' (= -1/2)$  for power at very low velocities (eq.39) is responsible for the inferior barrier of the minimum speed  $V$ , as well as the exponent  $k'' = -3/2$  of the well-known relativistic power is responsible for the top barrier of the speed of light  $c$  according to Newton second law.

In order to see clearly both exponents  $k' = -1/2$  (inferior inertial barrier  $V$ ) and  $k'' = -3/2$  (top inertial barrier  $c$ ), let us write the general formula of power (eq.38) in the following alternative way after some algebraic manipulations on it, namely:

$$P_{ow} = \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{k'} \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{k''} \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{c^2}\right) \frac{dE_k}{dt}, \quad (40)$$

where  $k' = -1/2$  and  $k'' = -3/2$ . Now it is easy to see that, if  $v \approx V$  or even  $v \ll c$ , eq.40 recovers the approximation (39). As  $V \ll c$ , the ratio  $V^2/c^2$  in (40) is a very small dimensionless constant[2]. So it could be neglected.

From (40) we get the effective inertial mass  $m_{eff}$  of SSR, namely:

$$m_{eff} = m_0 \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{c^2}\right) \quad (41)$$

We must stress that  $m_{eff}$  in (41) is a longitudinal mass  $m_L$ . The problem of mass anisotropy will be treated elsewhere, where we will intend to show that, just for the approximation  $v \approx V$ , the effective inertial mass becomes practically isotropic, that is to say  $m_L \approx m_T \approx m_0 \left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{-1/2}$ . This important result will show us the isotropic aspect of the vacuum- $S_V$  so that the inferior barrier  $V$  has the same behavior of response ( $k' = -1/2$ ) for any direction in the space, namely for any angle between the applied force and the velocity of the particle.

We must point out the fact that  $m_{eff}$  has nothing to do with the “relativistic mass” (relativistic energy  $E$  in eq.33) in the sense that  $m_{eff}$  is dynamically responsible for both barriers  $V$  and  $c$ . The discrepancy between the “relativistic mass” (energy  $mc^2$  of the particle) and such an effective inertial mass ( $m_{eff}$ ) can be interpreted under SSR theory, as follows:  $m_{eff}$  is a dressed inertial mass given in response to the presence of the vacuum- $S_V$  that works like a kind of “fluid” in which the particle  $m_0$  is immersed, while the “relativistic mass” in SSR (eq.33) works like a bare inertial mass in the sense that it is not considered to be under the dynamical influence of the “fluid” connected to the vacuum- $S_V$ . That is the reason why the exponent  $k = 1/2$  in eq.33 cannot be used to explain the existence of an infinite inferior barrier at  $V$ , namely the vacuum- $S_V$  barrier is governed by the

exponent  $k' = -1/2$  as shown in (39), (40) and (41), which prevents that  $v_*(= v - V) \leq 0$ .

The difference between the dressed (effective) mass and the relativistic (bare) mass, i.e.,  $m_{eff} - m$  represents an interactive increment of mass  $\Delta m_i$  that has purely origin from the vacuum energy- $S_V$ , namely

$$\Delta m_i = m_0 \left[ \frac{\left(1 - \frac{V^2}{c^2}\right)}{\left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}} - \frac{\left(1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right] \quad (42)$$

We have  $\Delta m_i = m_{eff} - m$ , being  $m_{eff} = m_{dressed}$  given in eq.41 and  $m$  ( $m_r$ ) given in eq.33.

From (42) we consider the following special cases:

a) for  $v \approx c$  we have

$$\Delta m_i \approx m_0 \left[ \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{3}{2}} - \left(1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right] \quad (43)$$

As the effective inertial mass  $m_{eff}$  ( $m_L$ ) increases much faster than the bare (relativistic) mass  $m$  ( $m_r$ ) close to the speed  $c$ , there is an increment of inertial mass  $\Delta m_i$  that dresses  $m$  in direction of its motion and it tends to be infinite when  $v \rightarrow c$ , i.e.,  $\Delta m_i \rightarrow \infty$ .

b) for  $V \ll v \ll c$  (newtonian or intermediary regime) we find  $\Delta m_i \approx 0$ , where we simply have  $m_{eff}$  ( $m_{dressed}$ )  $\approx m \approx m_0$ . This is the classical case.

c) for  $v \approx V$  (close to the vacuum- $S_V$  regime) we have the following approximation:

$$\Delta m_i = (m_{dressed} - m) \approx m_{dressed} \approx \frac{m_0}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}}, \quad (44)$$

where  $m \approx 0$  when  $v \approx V$  (see eq.33).

It is interesting to compare (44) ( $m_{dressed} \approx \theta^{-1} m_0$ ) with the transformation given for the transversal direction, namely  $r_T = \theta^{-1} r'_T$ , so that we find  $\frac{m_{dressed}}{m_0} \approx \frac{r_T}{r'_T} = \theta^{-1}$ , which implies  $m_0 r_T \approx m_{dressed} r'_T$ . If  $v \rightarrow V$ , this leads to  $m_{dressed} \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow r_T \rightarrow \infty$  for  $r'_T$  fixed to be finite and  $m_0 > 0$ , so that we note that  $m_{dressed}$  and  $r_T$  are directly related to each other.

The approximation (44) shows that the whole dressed mass has purely origin from the energy of vacuum- $S_V$ , being  $m_{dressed}$  the pure increment  $\Delta m_i$ , since the bare (relativistic) mass  $m$  of the own particle almost vanishes in such a regime ( $v \approx V$ ), and thus an inertial effect only due to the vacuum (“fluid”)- $S_V$  remains. We see that  $\Delta m_i \rightarrow \infty$  when  $v \rightarrow V$ . In other words, we can interpret this infinite barrier of vacuum- $S_V$  by considering the particle to be strongly coupled to the background field- $S_V$  for all directions of the space. The isotropy of  $m_{eff}$  in this regime will be shown in detail elsewhere, being  $m_{eff} = m_L = m_T \approx m_0(1 - V^2/v^2)^{-1/2}$ . In such a regime the particle practically loses its locality (“identity”) in the sense that it is spread out isotropically in

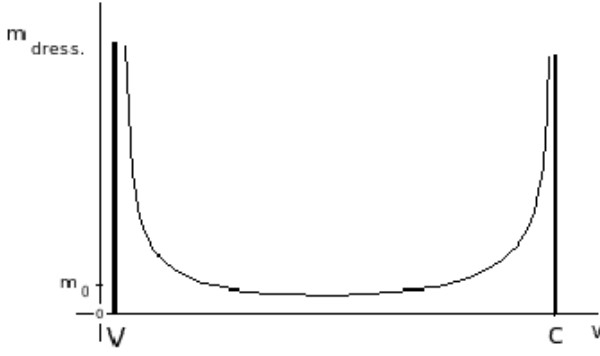


FIG. 4: The graph shows us two infinite barriers at  $V$  and  $c$ , providing an aspect of symmetry of SSR. The first barrier ( $V$ ) is exclusively due to the vacuum- $S_V$ , being interpreted as a barrier of pure vacuum energy. In this regime we have the following approximations:  $m_{eff} = m_{dressed} \approx \Delta m_i \approx m_0(1 - V^2/v^2)^{-1/2}$  and  $m_r \approx m_0(1 - V^2/v^2)^{1/2}$  (see Fig.3), so that  $m_{dressed} \rightarrow \infty$  and  $m = m_r = m_{bare} \rightarrow 0$  when  $v \rightarrow V$ . The second barrier ( $c$ ) is a sum (mixture) of two contributions, namely the own bare (relativistic) mass  $m$  that increases with the factor  $\gamma = (1 - v^2/c^2)^{-1/2}$  (see Fig 3) plus the interactive increment  $\Delta m_i$  due to the vacuum energy- $S_V$ , so that  $m_{dressed} = m_L = m + \Delta m_i \approx m_0(1 - v^2/c^2)^{-3/2}$ . This is a longitudinal effect. For the transversal effect,  $\Delta m_i = 0$  since we get  $m_T = m$ . This result will be shown elsewhere.

the whole space and it becomes strongly coupled to the vacuum field- $S_V$ , leading to an infinite value of  $\Delta m_i$ . Such a divergence has origin from the dilatation factor  $\Theta_v(\rightarrow \infty)$  for this regime ( $v \approx V$ ), so that we can rewrite (44) in the following way:  $\Delta m_i \approx m_{dressed} \approx m_0\Theta(v)^{1/2}$ .

Figure 4 shows the graph for the longitudinal effective inertial mass  $m_{eff} = m_L$  ( $m_{dressed}$ ) as a function of the speed  $v$ , according to equation 41.

Let us now consider the de-Broglie wavelength of a particle, namely:

$$\lambda = \frac{h}{P} = \frac{h}{m_0 v} \frac{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{V^2}{v^2}}}, \quad (45)$$

from where we have used the momentum given in eq.21.

If  $v \rightarrow c \Rightarrow \lambda \rightarrow 0$  (*spatial contraction*), and if  $v \rightarrow V \Rightarrow \lambda \rightarrow \infty$  (*spatial dilatation to the infinite*). This limit leads to an infinite dilatation factor, i.e.,  $\Theta_v \rightarrow \infty$  (see (24)), where the wavelength of the particle tends to infinite (see eq.45). So alternatively we can write eq.45 in the following way:  $\lambda = \Theta_v^{1/2}(h/\gamma m_0 v)$ , where

$h/\gamma m_0 v$  represents the well-known de-Broglie wavelength with the relativistic correction for momentum, i.e., with the Lorentz factor  $\gamma$ .  $\Theta_v$  is the dilatation factor that leads to a drastic dilatation of the wavelength close to  $V$  related to the cosmological background field[3].

## V. CONCLUSIONS AND PROSPECTS

We have introduced a space-time with symmetry so that the range of velocities is  $V < v \leq c$ , where  $V$  is an inferior and unattainable limit of speed associated with a privileged inertial reference frame of universal background field (ultra-referential  $S_V$ ). There is a possible connection between the minimum speed ( $V$ ) and the minimum length  $l_P$  (Planck scale) to be investigated in a further work (see ref.[2]). The origin of  $V$  should be also investigated[2]. Actually we will show that  $V$  arises from an extension of gravity coupled to the electromagnetic field for large distances, which could form a basis for understanding a new quantum gravity at very low energies. So we will intend to estimate the scale of  $V$  and its dependence with  $G$ ,  $\hbar$  and some other universal constants[2]. Besides this, within non-commutative geometry and quantum deformed Poincare symmetries, we will look for a new kind of geometry and deformed Poincare group that includes the minimum speed we are proposing in SSR[3].

We will make a more detailed development of the physical consequences of SSR in terms of field-theory actions and gravitational extensions.

The present theory has also various other implications which shall be investigated in the coming articles. We should investigate the general transformations of velocity and whether the new transformations in SSR form a group.

Here we must stress that the covariance of the Maxwell wave equations by change of reference frames in the presence of the background field of the ultra-referential  $S_V$  has been verified in a previous publication[3].

In short we hope to open up a new fundamental research field for various areas of Physics, since the minimum speed can help us to clarify many physical concepts, including problems in condensed matter, quantum mechanics[34], quantum field theories, cosmology (dark energy and cosmological constant[3]) and specially a new exploration for quantum gravity at very low energies (very large wavelengths).

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